

**James Mackay to George Washington, August 27, 1754,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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FROM CAPTAIN JAMES MACKAY. ¹

WILLS CREEK 27 Augst 1754

DEAR SIR

I was favourd with yours of the 15 Inst. by Mr. Cowpar which was the first I heard of the Suddent Resolves, and your being So Well provided to enable you to Comply Wt your Instructions gives grate hops of the Success of the Interpraise what ever it is. Not doubting but that every other thing upon which an expedetion of Such Importance depends Will be equely taken care of; Some days ago we had 12 head of Cattle but they went away and I Suppose after the example of the No. Carolina Regt have gon home but this is not all our dependance for we have about 40 lb of Beacon and 3 Milk Cows one of which we have cot this day So if we go Soon on this new Sceam there is no doubt of our being well supplied there being Such large provision made for it

We have been almost drownded here being threatened Wt. a Second Deludge for it has Reand 40 days and 40 Nights which has caused great Sickness among my people, and the Rivers are so high that Colo. Innes and the New York Comps have not been able to cross the So Branch

I shall take care that you shall have your Rifle but the man that has it hops that youl be So good as to gett him Some other Rifle for it, as you was plasd to auquaint every person that

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whatever they carried Should be their own and every person have payd for what ever they Returnd

I most begg of you when you are getting nesessarys for your Regement that you think of your fellow suffers and put the Commissary in moind that we have no tents or any other nesessarys fitt to take the Field Wt

I shall be obligd to you If youl be so good as to let me know the Resolves of your assambly when you are lett into that Secrats the Gent wt me Joins in our Complments to you and the Gents. of your Corps

I am Dear Sir Your Most Obedient Humble Servt JAMES MACKAY

1 Washington writes, in a letter to Robert Sinclair, of Scotland, in 1792: "My acquaintance with Captain Mackay commenced in the army, in the year 1754, when I commanded the troops, which were sent to prevent the encroachments of the French upon the western boundaries of the then colonies. Captain Mackay then commanded an Independent Company, either from Georgia or South Carolina, and was captured with me by an army of French and Indians, at a place called the Great Meadows. In 1755, he left the service, sold out, and went to Georgia. "I heard nothing of him from that time till about five or six years ago, when he went by water from Georgia to Rhode Island on account of his health. On his return to Georgia by land, he was seized either by the complaint for which he had gone to Rhode Island, or by some other disorder, and died at Alexandria; not at my house, as your letter mentions. I was not informed of his being at Alexandria until after his death, which was a circumstance that I regretted much, not only on account of the regard which I had for him, from our former acquaintance, but because I understood that he was then on his way to pay me a visit, and had expressed an anxious desire to see me before he died. I do not know whether Captain Mackay left any family or not; for, from the time of his quitting the service until his death, as I observed before, I knew nothing of him. I have, however, been informed that he was possessed of a handsome property in Georgia."